



Staff Sgt. Ana Siavi'i and Airman 1st Class Jami Woods ready a litter so they can transport victims to receive less immediate care during the 27th Medical Group's Emergency Medical Technician Rodeo held April 13 at the base clinic.



Tech. Sgt. Frank Deguzman uses a stethoscope to check the breathing on a victim while the rest of his team stands by with supplies waiting for the next step in helping to revive the victim.



Senior Airman Michelle Graves performs CPR to try and revive a drowning victim.



Airman 1st Class Veila Moran untangles straps to secure the victim on the litter while Airman 1st Class Maria De Santiago tries to stabilize the victim.

No cowboys at this rodeo

Cannon's EMTs test their medical abilities against each other

Story and photos By Airman Elliott Sprehe
27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Screams filled the air as Cannon medics rushed from victim to victim to determine who was hurt the worst and who could be saved.

Meanwhile, emergency medical technicians frantically worked to revive someone who they feared drowned.

These were not real-world emergencies, but rather part of a training competition during the 27th Medical Group's EMT Rodeo.

The rodeo is the first event of its kind at Cannon and included a variety of events to showcase the skills and abilities for the base EMTs.

Six teams of four Airmen each, ranging in rank from airman to lieutenant colonel participated in the event, said medic Tech. Sgt. Jorge Rivas, 27th Aeromedical Dental Squadron.

The teams participated in events that included trauma assessments, ambulance loading and pharmacology jeopardy, a trivia game in which each team demonstrated their knowledge of how to administer medication.

Some of the events were timed to test the teams' ability to perform under pressure and



Emergency Medical Technicians simulate providing air to a victim during one of the training events at the Emergency Medical Technicians Rodeo Saturday.

also to help simulate real-world situations that may occur.

"This is us doing what's right and moving forward so our people have the best skill sets they can have," said Col. Kenneth Hall, 27th MDG command-

er. "We're trying to set our people up with the life-saving skills that they need when they go forward to AEF 7/8 and for things here at home."

The rodeo was held, in part, in preparation of the Aerospace Expeditionary Force 7/8 rotation, as well as to evaluate the knowledge of each Airman in areas including self-aid and buddy care, ambulance knowledge and triage.

Because the medic career field encompasses a wide array of skills, the rodeo focused on those skills that help Airmen treat service-members in the field, as well as emergency calls at Cannon, said Sergeant Rivas.

"One of the reasons we did this is not just to hone our readiness skills to build teamwork and camaraderie with our medics," said Chief Master Sgt. Charles Cole, 27th MDG superintendent. "Not only will it help with our medical skills, but also help us in our day-to-day interactions with each other and our patients."

"We plan on having this event in the future and would like to invite other departments such as the fire department to participate," said Sergeant Rivas, "Taking care of wounded Airmen is a top concern for the Air Force and the 27th MDG's EMT rodeo is just one example of this concern."



Left to right Staff Sgt. Quianna Enang, Senior Airman Victoria Bassett, Staff Sgt. Eric Burney and Tech. Sgt. Martin Jensen ensure that a "victim" is properly secured to the litter before being moved.

Care top priority

Courtesy of Air Force News Service

SAN ANTONIO, Texas – Chief Master Sgt. Rodney McKinley, the Air Force's top enlisted Airman, knows the importance of taking care of Airmen, especially those who have been wounded during the war on terrorism.

"It's important that every one of our Airmen know the Air Force is committed to providing the same level of resources, planning and implementation toward caring for our combat-related ill and injured as it does in preparing Airmen for deployment and combat," Chief McKinley said.

The chief highlights the Survivor Assistance Program and Palace HART (Helping Airmen Recover Together) in his latest letter.

"Through the Survivor Assistance Program and Palace HART, our wounded Airmen are getting, and will continue to get, the care they deserve," Chief McKinley said.